

REMARKS

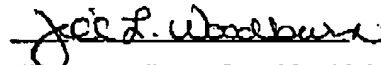
Claims 2-5 and 7, and 9-34 are pending in the application. Claims 9, 16, and 17 are independent claims.

Claims 2-5, 7, and 9-25 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-31 of U.S. Patent No. 6, 592,815. A terminal disclaimer is submitted herewith.

This application is deemed to be in condition for allowance and as such is respectfully requested. In addition, if necessary, it is requested that this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and fees be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0877 (with reference to WP 18622 US).

Respectfully submitted,

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